

Training and Increasing Awareness

The group identified the need to sensitize directors of veterinary services about the necessity for the development of expertise in the era of risk analysis as well as training at the field operation level.

Raising awareness of directors of veterinary services

1. Seminar on the use and perspective of risk analysis (one day)

Training for technical people - Should be delivered at two levels:

1. Seminar on general concepts of surveillance and analysis of risk (one week)
2. Analytic epidemiology and risk analysis (two courses)
 - Course on basic epidemiology (one week)
 - Course on quantitative risk analysis (one week)

Seminar on the use and perspective of risk analysis

Directed at directors of veterinary services. Present risk analysis in the general context of the SPS agreement; general concepts of risk analysis and finally a description of the minimum requirements for a risk analysis unit.

The recommendation was to carry out this type of seminar associated with regional meetings. Each international organization represented will review the appropriate fora that can be used to show the work of the group. The following meetings were tentatively identified:

OIRSA	Technical Commission Meetings (held twice per year) for a one-day seminar. Meetings held in Central America could also invite Caribbean countries that speak Spanish.
PANAFTOSA	Next COSALFA meeting in March
OIE	Regional Meeting Of The OIE Regional Commission for the Americas

In addition the group will look into the possibility of coordinating the development of training seminars described above with IICA for the English speaking Caribbean countries.

Seminars on general concepts of surveillance and risk analysis

Directed at the technical level. Consider the general principles of surveillance and general concepts of risk analysis.

Basic Epidemiology

Directed at the technical level. Consider general aspects of analytic epidemiology, basic statistics and information systems.

Quantitative risk analysis

Directed at the technical level. Consider quantitative aspects of risk assessments including the development of stochastic models that include variability and uncertainty.

Further Discussion on Training:

The possibility to offer training presentations on the website was discussed. To carry this out, the different presentations that already exist will be analyzed and compiled. The final presentations will be formalized presentations put forward by the group and will have a standard format.

A discussion was held on distance education and web based courses.

México proposed carrying out a course on surveillance and risk analysis to harmonize the methodology used for risk analysis and promote the creation of risk analysis units in the American continent.